

78 POPULAR CULTURE IN KARNATAKA

A well-known song of Kanakadasa teaches trust in God. He tells his mind not to tremble but bear up a little. God will protect all. We need have no doubt of this. To the tree that has grown on the top of the hill who made a pit and fed it with water? He who gave it birth took the burden of rearing it. The mind should know this and cease from much doubting within. Who again limned the colours on the plumes of the peacock, and splashed on the coral its scarlet hue? Who taught speech to the mellow-toned parrot? He who did all this—will he give up man? There are worm and insect living under the stones. Who brings their food there? Pray, tell who? He of the loving eyes, the Lord, ancient and eternal, He will protect all. Of this there is no doubt. The feeling of wonder which comes over us when we look into the structure of our life and thought and of nature around us is expressed by Kanakadasa in another song. Is God in *Maya* or is *Maya* in God? Is God in the body or is body in God? Is the building in space or the space in the building? Or are both space and building in the eye? Is the eye in the mind or the mind in the eye? Or are both eye and mind in Krishna? Then come lines making the same observation regarding the sugar and its sweetness and the tongue and taste and flowers and their

fragrance and the sense of smell. Then
says the
saint;

"O Self-born and ancient Lord of
Kagmele
I^seannot encompass yott in words.
All is in yoti."

In another piece Kanakadasa tells his mind
to beware
or it will go to ruin. The words can be
addressed to